FBIS DAILY REPORT

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ETHIOPIA

ADDIS ABABA: ARMY ROUTS ENEMY ON EASTERN FRONT

LD111830Y Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1700 GMT 11 Feb 78 LD/EA

[Text] Reports reaching us from the eastern battlefront indicate that the eastern force, which has pledged to sacrifice itself for the unity and freedom of the beloved country, is attacking and routing the enemy.

According to the reports, in an attack it launched last week in the Jarso Subdistrict, it destroyed an augmented force of the reactionary Mogadiscio government which was deployed in Muja Jihata locality. The Ethiopian force captured large quantities of weapons. The materiel seized included mortars, artillery pieces, tanks, heavy and medium trucks and large quantities of ammunition and explosives. The force also seized quantities of rice, sugar, dates and cigarettes.

Local journalists were able to observe the movements of the force, which was mobilized for the attack to destroy the soldiers of the fascist Siad Barre.

AFP Report

PA111308Y Paris AFP in English 1227 GMT 11 Feb 78 PA

[By Marie Joannidis]

[Text] Addis Ababa, Feb 11 (AFP)--Ethiopia has launched a two-pronged offensive in the Ogaden aimed at taking control of the rail line in the north towards Djibouti and in the east to take the strategic town of Jijiga, it was learned here today. The railway, which had been cut either side of Diredawa by pro-Somali forces, has been repaired up to Mieso, some 300 km (190 miles) east of Addis Ababa.

Informed sources today said the 200 km (125 mile) stretch between Mieso and Diredawa has been relieved by Addis Ababa forces and workers are now tackling repairs on the destroyed bridges so that trains can run again. The same sources said the work would still take several days.

The Ethiopians, operating from Diredawa, want to free the line up to the frontier with Djibouti which was their main outlet to the sea through the port of Assab.

A second Ethiopian thrust is in operation to the east of Harar which, despite fierce assaults by the pro-Somali forces, has never fallen.

The Ethiopians want to regain Jijiga and, above all, cut the area off from the Somali frontier and the rear base of the enemy forces situated in Hargeisa in northern Somalia.

Sources here said the Ethiopians are closing in around Jijiga from the north and south to take the pro-Somali forces in a pincer-movement, and fierce fighting was taking place between Babile and Jijiga in the plain adjacent to the two towns.

Well-informed sources here said that Babile and Bissidamo, about 20 km (12 miles) from Harar, have never [fallen] despite violent fighting around and even in the towns, and in spite of claims from the Somali capital of Mogadiscio. The immediate areas surrounding Harar are now clear, the sources added, although fighting was continuing further away. The Ethiopian forces had mounted heavy air attacks in the last few days and advanced between 10 and 20 km (6 to 12 miles).

Ethiopia undoubtedly has air superiority in the Ogaden and some observers here said it had numerical superiority, with 100,000 men, mostly drawn from the militia, in the territory.

The Addis Ababa forces have received 40 MIG-17 and 21 aircraft and more than 300 Soviet-built tanks in recent months, it was reported here.

Observers said that even a localised victory in the Harar Region and at Jijiga would boost the troops' morale, which reverses in the Ogaden had severely affected. Such a victory would give Ethiopia, with Cuban and Soviet, support chance to prepare to free the whole of the Ogaden Region.

Latest estimates put the number of Cubans, Soviets, South Yemenites and other East European forces now in Ethiopia at nearly 7,000. Most of the military effort appears to be concentrated on the Ogaden, with the northern front in Eritrea relatively calm.

Meanwhile, Addis Ababa has announced that it has signed an accord with East Germany to extend and improve Assab port on the Red Sea. Assab is vital for Ethiopia since the siege on Massawa port and the closing of the Massawa-Asmara route, as major equipment flows to Assab from Aden.

Further Advances

FA130304Y Paris AFP in English 0234 GMT 13 Feb 78 FA

[Text] Harar, Ethiopia, Feb 13 (AFP)--Ethiopian troops striking through the Ogaden desert have pushed back pro-Somali units between 30 to 75 km (20 to 45 miles) and are now some 30 km from Jijiga, the keypoint for control of the Ogaden, eastern front Commander Colonel Mulatu Negesh disclosed here yesterday.

Jijiga is still held by the Western Somalia Liberation Front (WSLF) backed by Mogadiscio. Three-quarters of (?Harar) Province (Harar is the capital) also remains under "reactionary" Somali control, the colonel said. He stressed that Soviet and Cuban personnel in the area were taking no direct part in combat, but admitted that some were military advisers. Others were medical and technical aid staff.

Col. Mulatu said between 5,000 and 12,000 foreign soldiers from "reactionary Arab countries" were fighting with the pro-Somali forces.

Col. Mulatu said the Ethiopians meant to push their opponents back but not to cross the border. He put enemy losses at a division since fighting started last July. Somali replacements in the past two months included 13-year-old conscripts, he claimed. He said Ethiopian losses were 500 to 700 killed and (?1,500) wounded.

Journalists were shown 17 prisoners of war, who said they were Somali. Also on view were captured American and Italian weapons and ammunition from Pakistan and Arab countries.

There are some 5,000 refugees in this town, and the government says there are 80,000 civilian refugees in all of the Ogaden.

TANJUG Report

LD122250Y Belgrade TANJUG in English 2120 GMT 12 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Hararge, February 12 (From TANJUG correspondent Radoslav Jovic)--The Ethiopian Army and People's Militia continue to advance on the eastern and southern fronts, although not as fast as expected.

A group of more than 100 reporters from all over the world today visited Diredawa, Harar and the Harar sector in the Ogaden, as well as advance guard posts some 40 kilometres southwest of Harar.

As Ethiopian military commanders say, there has been no fighting over the last few days, but the ground was strewn with shells and machine-gun cartridges. Reporters also saw some tanks put out of action, bearing visible Somali signs. A number of corpses could have been seen in what used to be Somali trenches.

Newsmen were shown Somali prisoners in Harar, a city which the Somali Army attacked several times but never managed to enter, as claimed by Radio Mogadiscio. A group of 17 prisoners, including several wounded, were obviously members of the regular Somali forces. All spoke Arabic. [as received] The last prisoner has been captured four weeks ago.

A great number of weapons seized from the enemy, bearing the insignia of some Arab countries and, newsmen were told, weapons originating from Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Pakistan, the U.S. and other countries, have been stacked in a field in Diredawa and in a barracks yard in Harar.

Incoming reports from other parts of the front speak of the advancement of the Ethiopian Army and People's Militia.

PAPER CRITICIZES VANCE PROPOSALS FOR SETTLEMENT

LD131205Y Addis Ababa Domestic Service in English 1015 GMT 13 Feb 78 LD/EA

[Text] In its editorial entitled "America's (?Meandering Connotations)," the ETHIOPIAN HERALD of yesterday had the following to say:

At a Washington press conference Friday, the American secretary of state, Mr Cyrus Vance, spoke of the war in the Horn of Africa being fought between the defending forces of Ethiopia and the invading troops of the reactionary regime of Somalia. Mr Vance set forth a set of proposals, some of which are not items for discussion, whereas others are mixed up in their arrangement and therefore are grossly unacceptable to Ethiopia.

The future of Ogaden is not negotiable and the presence in Ethiopia of technicians, doctors and advisers from friendly socialist states is a matter for Ethiopia's prerogative. Also, Mr Cyrus Vance's latest utterances on the situation in the Horn of Africa constitute the first public admission by a senior American official of the presence inside Ethiopian territory of the invading troops of Somalia.

The suggested formula (?betrayed) the concentrated NATO-reactionary Arab drive of further complicating the (?crucial) issues of peace and war, for, in a (?fascist) manner, Mr Vance has perhaps deliberately confused the sequence of priorities by calling for a ceasefire, negotiated settlement and the withdrawal of Somali troops--in that order.

Continuing, the paper said: The (?idiosyncrasy of) the American secretary of state [word indistinct] Ethiopia's choice of friends and the absurd formula of trading Somalia's withdrawal from our territory with the retention or not of technical advisers from friendly states [words indistinct] the flagrant interference of imperialist powers in the affairs of sovereign countries of (?this) [word indistinct].

Ethiopia, as a sovereign state, has the right to maintain friendly relations with countries of its choice who support its struggle to construct a socialist society and to defend its unity and territorial integrity. This is more so at a time when its territorial integrity and the hard-won achievements of the broad masses of Ethiopia are threatened by the brazen aggression of imperialist and reactionary forces.

The paper concludes that the promise of Mr Vance that the U.S. would reconsider its policy (?to) supply Somalia with arms in the most improbable condition of an Ethiopian attack is more revealing of the hypocritical stand of the U.S. on the conflict in the Horn of Africa. The world knows that American arms are flowing into Somalia through Iran and Saudi Arabia. It is not clear why the American secretary of state has chosen to mislead the international public opinion [words indistinct].

At any rate, the defense and struggle of the Ethiopian forces will be confined to driving out the invading troops of Somalia from Ethiopia's internationally recognized boundaries. The broad masses of Ethiopia will not lay down their arms before the last invading soldier of Somalia is removed from Ethiopian territory. That was the ETHIOPIAN HERALD.

FURTHER DETAILS GIVEN ON PURCHASE OF ISRAELI ARMS

LD102000Y Addis Ababa in English to Neighboring Countries 1730 GMT 10 Feb 78 LD/EA

[Text] A spokesman of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has described a statement attributed to Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan regarding what was referred to as Israeli sale of arms to Ethiopia as sensational and stage-managed.

The statement declared that a simple business deal made on a commercial basis had been blown out of all proportion to serve as a deliberate act of political blackmail. He said that Israel was, (?unlike certain) countries, the only one which offered to sell us a limited amount of ammunition and spare parts (?following) Washington's delaying tactics (?to) supply military hardware for which Ethiopia had signed an agreement with the U.S. Government.

He added that Ethiopia had no alternative but to purchase military commodities at exorbitant prices to defend the revolution and the motherland, which was then being threatened by the reactionary Arab-backed secessionists in Eritrea and the expansionist Mogadiscio regime in the south and east. The spokesman said [words indistinct] Mr Moshe Dayan's statement was nothing but a deliberate act designed to isolate Ethiopia from the revolutionary and progressive Arab world. He added that it was also aimed at driving a wedge between Ethiopia and the socialist world.

TANJUG REPORTS STATEMENT ON U.S. ARMS CANCELATION

LD112352Y Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1119 GMT 11 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Addis Ababa--Ethiopian military and political quarters believe that the Ethiopian Army today is well equipped and that it is in a position to resist all foreign and internal enemies, which means that in this respect the situation is totally different from the situation of 8 months ago.

After a long time Ethiopia today is quite capable of defending its sovereignty and territorial integrity, says a statement issued by the Ethiopian Foreign Ministry.

After denouncing the United States for having introduced an embargo on arms deliveries to Ethiopia--arms which had already been paid for--the ministry went on to say that Ethiopia, confronted by this betrayal and by nonrespect for agreed commitments, in the spirit of socialist bortherhood turned to socialist countries for the necessary military assistance.

Thanks to this selfless assistance, rendered to us by the socialist countries and especially by the USSR, and also thanks to the support by progressive governments in the Arab world and elsewhere, the Ethiopian revolution has been consolidated and firmly established. This is the latest official statement on how the Ethiopian Army has been armed since the beginning of the war in Ogaden last summer.

AIDE DESCRIBES USSR HELP; ASSAILS WEST, ARABS

LD101549Y Rome L'UNITA in Italian 8 Feb 78 p 14 LD

[Unattributed report: "Ethiopia Has No Intention of Crossing Somali Borders"]

[Text] Rome--"Ethiopia has no intention of invading Somalia." This statement was made by Maj (Girma Neway) [as published], chairman of the Ethiopian Revolutionary Information Center, at a press conference at his country's embassy in Rome yesterday.

Maj (Girma Neway) started by quoting Mengistu Haile Mariam, president of the Dergue which is the provisional military government ruling Ethiopia: "We are not making territorial claims on anyone; we do not have expansionist aims or plans for taking territory from our neighbors." He then went on to say: "We are asking Somali leaders to withdraw their troops from our territory. If they do not withdraw their troops, we will fight to the last man and bullet to chase the enemy from Ethiopian soil. We will not stop until we reach our borders, but when we do we will not move forward by so much as one more inch. I repeat that Ethiopia does not want a single square inch of Somali territory or of any of our neighbors' territory."

Major (Girma)'s statement seems to be a direct, official reply to Somalia's accusation that the Ethiopian offensive in the Ogaden is really a prelude to an invasion of Somali territory. Major (Girma) has rejected that by saying that in its present action, Ethiopia is exercising a "legitimate right" to repel invading troops.

In reply to a question, he said it was difficult to estimate how long the present phase could last. The war is long and hard, and foreign intervention is complicating the situation. He declared he had information which proved that Egypt, Saudi Arabia and Iran were carrying out an airlift to bring more than 7,000 soldiers to Somalia to strengthen the Somali Army. Some of these troops are allegedly in Mogadiscio while another section is spreading out through the Ogaden.

(Girma Neway) then added that the NATO countries now have a "plan for direct intervention," according to which the United States, Great Britain, West Germany, France and Italy "have agreed to supply large quantities of military equipment to Somalia through agreements with reactionary Arab regimes together with Iran and other reactionary forces. We have already captured NATO arms on our territory." However, the Italian Embassy and the Farnesina have denied that arms issued in Italy have been transferred to the Horn of Africa.

Major (Girma Neway) had to face a barrage of questions about the presence and role of Russians and Cubans on Ethiopian territory and reiterated that there were no Soviet or Cuban troops in Ethiopia, just technicians and medical personnel. He was asked what technical assistance meant. "Technical assistance," he said, "means that Soviet and Cuban technical personnel are training our soldiers." But according to (Girma Neway), these technicians are noncombatant and are not to be found anywhere near the front. The Ethiopian spokesman also said that there are just "about 100" such technicians. Asked whether it was true that military equipment had been supplied to a value of more than $150 million, he replied that it was not worth more than $100 million.

He was asked whether Soviet ships had in fact been used in the bombardment of Massawa. "No," he replied curtly, and he also denied statements made by several journalists who have returned from Eritrea claiming that Massawa is under the control of the guerrillas.

F-5 PLANE REPORTEDLY DOWNED BY ERITREAN REBELS

TA1121337Y Paris AFP in English 2129 GMT 11 Feb 78 TA

[Text] Damascus, Feb 11 (AFP)--The Eritrean Liberation Front shot down an American-built Ethiopian F-5 fighter plane over a military airport a few kilometers (miles) from Asmara last Saturday, the Eritrean news agency reported tonight. The plane was returning to base after attacking Eritrean positions west of Asmara, the Eritrean capital, the agency said.

SOVIET AFRO-ASIAN COMMITTEE CONVEYS SUPPORT

LD1120007Y Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1700 GMT 11 Feb 78 LD/EA

[Text] The Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee of the USSR has sent a message to the Provisional Military Administrative Council. The message states that the committee identifies itself with the determined struggle waged by the people and armed forces of Ethiopia to safeguard the gains of the revolution and the unity and territorial integrity of the country, as well as to free the areas seized by Somali soldiers.

The committee also emphasizes that it is astonished and greatly concerned by the involvement of imperialist forces in the war that was declared by the Somali Government and that led to the partial occupation of Ethiopian territory.

In its message, the Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee of the USSR says the conditions for a peaceful settlement of the conflict include adherence to the UN and OAU charters and the unconditional and total withdrawal of Somali forces from Ethiopian territory.

GDR SIGNS AGREEMENT ON EXPANSION OF ASSAB PORT

LD1020457 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1700 GMT 10 Feb 78 LD/EA

[Summary] Ethiopia and the GDR today signed an agreement on cooperation in the modification and expansion of the Red Sea port of Assab. The accord was signed in Addis Ababa by the Ethiopian communications and transport minister, Yusuf Ahmed, and the GDR's acting construction minister, (Karl-Heinz Martin).

"According to the agreement, the priority task is to permit the port to accelerate its activities so that it will not go out of service." Construction work is to begin next month and is scheduled to last 3 years. "It is reported that when fully modified, Assab will be the best port on the Red Sea."

DELEGATION DEPARTS FOR ECONOMIC TALKS IN GDR

LD1118457 Addis Ababa in Amharic to Neighboring Countries 1600 GMT 11 Feb 78 LD/EA

[Text] A high-level Ethiopian delegation, headed by Comrade 2d Lt Gesesse Wolde Kidan, PMAC member in charge of economic affairs, left today for the GDR on a working tour. Comrade Second Lieutenant Gesesse said he would deliver a message to Comrade Erich Honecker, secretary general of the SED of the GDR, from Comrade Lt Col Mengistu Haile Mariam, chairman of the PMAC. The Ethiopian delegation's working tour is chiefly aimed at strengthening the economic relations between the two countries and at studying ways to implement agreements already concluded.

DELEGATION LEAVES FOR OAU SESSION IN TRIPOLI

LD111850Y Addis Ababa in Amharic to Neighboring Countries 1600 GMT 11 Feb 78 LD/EA

[Excerpt] A four-man delegation headed by Ato Berhanu Dinka, head of the African and Middle East Department of the Ethiopian Foreign Ministry, has left for Libya to participate in a session of the Coordination Committee for the Liberation of Africa, which opens in Tripoli on Monday. Dr Onu, the OAU's assistant secretary general for political affairs, and many African ambassador resident in Addis Ababa have also left to take part in the meeting.

SOMALIA

SIAD BARRE CHAIRS EXTRAORDINARY SRSP MEETING

LD111940Y Mogadiscio Domestic Service in Somali 1850 GMT 11 Feb 78 LD/EA

[Text] An extraordinary meeting of the Somali Revolutionary Socialist Party [SRSP], which was held on 9 and 10 February and which was chaired by the SRSP secretary general, Challe Mohamed Siad Barre, has discussed in depth international affairs in general and the tension in the Horn of Africa in particular.

Challe Mohamed Siad Barre, secretary general of the SRSP and president of the Somali Democratic Republic, addressed the meeting and spoke at length about [words indistinct] of the country, especially in the political, economic and social spheres.

After Challe Mohamed Siad Barre's speech, the (?members) debated the various issues, on which resolutions were passed. In due course, we shall inform the Somali people of the resolutions adopted by the SRSP Central Committee's extraordinary meeting.

State of Emergency Declared

LD121146Y Mogadiscio Domestic Service in Somali 1950 GMT 11 Feb 78 LD/EA

[Text] At a meeting held on 8 and 9 February this year the Somali Revolutionary Socialist Party [SRSP] Central Committee discussed the difficult situation currently prevailing in the Horn of Africa. The Central Committee issued the following statement:

For a long time now the Somali Democratic Republic [SDR] has been aware of foreign interference in the situation that has arisen in the Horn of Africa as a result of the struggle of the people colonized by Abyssinia. It has become clear that the USSR, Cuba and their allies are supporting Ethiopia. This support has been stepped up day by day, and the situation now is such that these forces have taken full control of military operations and of the conduct of the war. The Russians, Cubans and their allies have taken steps to destroy the freedom fighters and the Somali ethnic groups living in the area, and their war planes have launched repeated air raids on towns in the SDR.

The Somali Government deplores this Soviet intervention in an African issue which endangers the existence of the SDR. This interference will compel Somalia to review relations between the two countries.

The Somali Government is amazed at the stance the Western countries have adopted toward the situation in the Horn of Africa, since Russian and Cuban forces are clearly involved in the conflict in violation of all international norms.

It now appears that some big powers have abdicated their responsibility toward world peace and are aggravating problems that have existed before, just as the USSR is to doing in the Horn of Africa. If other countries who bear responsibility for maintaining world peace do not take a stand against Soviet activity in the Horn of Africa, it is obvious that the situation can easily drift into a major war which could become worldwide.

The problem it faces has forced the SDR to defend itself against this invasion and increase its support to the freedom fighters by sending in some of its regular troops. The SDR believes that the problem in the Horn of Africa would have been alleviated and that a satisfactory solution would have been found if foreign powers had not interfered.

The government of the SDR, having heard the opinions of peace-loving nations and organizations, does not oppose any just and lasting peace. However, the prerequisites of this peace are: a halt to the bloodshed now taking place; the guaranteed withdrawal of foreign troops now taking part in the conflict; and granting the right of self-determination to the peoples under Abyssinian colonial domination, which is supported by foreign troops seeking to exterminate these people.

The desire of the Somali Government for a peaceful solution to the problem will not prevent it from defending the sovereignty of Somalia and the existence of the Somali nation. It is therefore necessary for the people and the country to go into a state of emergency, relying on themselves and believing in the defense of the unity of the nation and the existence of the Somali nation.

In order to implement these ideas, it is necessary for every Somali to be ready to play a part in actions essential for the defense of the country. All ex-servicemen who now have responsibilities elsewhere should contact the Ministry of Defense immediately. It is also requested that many members of the public volunteer and go to the appropriate centers organized by the Ministry of Defense.

Hitherto, workers, the general public and administrative officials have greatly contributed toward the construction and the economic development and social development of the country. This has made it possible to achieve great victories. Today, the responsibility of these people has become much greater, and they must redouble their efforts. There is no doubt that if the Somali people heighten their productivity, courage, patriotism and unity, they will achieve victory at this difficult stage we are experiencing.

Siad Calls for Support

LD121840Y Mogadiscio Domestic Service in Somali 1700 GMT 12 Feb 78 LD/EA

[Excerpt] Somali president Challe Mohamed Siad Barre today called on the Somali people, wherever they may be, to prepare to defend their sovereignty, unity and dignity. The president was addressing thousands of people who had gathered at the Dervishes Park in Mogadiscio this afternoon to pledge their support for the resolutions passed yesterday at the extraordinary meeting of the Somali Revolutionary Socialist Party Central Committee and to demonstrate their readiness to defend their independence and sovereignty.

Challe Siad said that it is essential for every able-bodied Somali to go to the Defense Ministry camps to prepare to defend their country and people. The president said that in addition to those who are preparing for war, others should prepare to increase production and enhance the country's economy. Each of us must brace himself in defense and production so that we shall be able to prove to the colonialist and his supporters that the history of the Somali people has not been [words indistinct] and that final victory will be ours, the president said.

Challe Siad said that it is unfortunate that the so-called socialist countries, including Russia, are supplying men, arms and economic aid to Abyssian colonialism, which is trying to suppress the just struggle of the freedom fighters. The Soviet leaders have arrogantly decided to mislead their people and to harm those fighting for their rights, instead of leading their country and people on the basis of their chosen ideology, which stands for justice, equality and the coexistence of mankind, the president said.

The president said that the men of the allied forces are not made of steel and stone but are human beings who have formed an unholy alliance. Thus, they can be countered by just solidarity. We are sure that final victory will be ours and that defeat will be the result for the colonialists, the Somali president said. Challe Siad added that the trees, land and climate all favor the freedom fighters and are hostile to the colonialists. He said that the freedom fighters will continue their struggle until the last inch of their territory is liberated from the colonialists. The president said the truth is that a broom gets worn out, but a land and its people who struggle for a just cause never wear out and will outlast any alliance of forces or countries.

Challe Siad declared that if anyone is going to withdraw from the territory it will be the Abyssinian colonialists, Russia and Cuba because, he said, the freedom fighters are the rightful owners of the territory and will fight until the last man. The president recalled a proverb which says: Death is at times preferable to life. He went on to declare that the Somali nation will not tolerate any form of colonialism, regardless of its hue. Challe Siad told the gathered people, who gave vent to patriotic emotion, that the Somali nation has friends who will help it defend its sovereignty and existence. The president reminded his audience that the problem is no different from earlier ones and expressed confidence that they will come through it with the help of their unity and ability.

The people who took part in the rally this afternoon, numbering over 200,000, gave vent to emotions of patriotism and nationalism, chanting words such as: Victory for the freedom fighters and defeat for the colonialists; Russia, Cuba and their puppets who have formed an unholy alliance must get out of the Horn of Africa.

AFP: 'Little Enthusiasm'

TA122032Y Paris AFP in English 1741 GMT 12 Feb 78 TA

[Excerpts] Mogadiscio, Feb 12 (AFP)--Somali President Mohamed Siad Barre today told his people that they would have to go it alone in the Ogaden war in Ethiopia. Gen Barre appeared before almost 100,000 Somalis massed in central square here less than 24 hours after Somalia's leaders declared a general mobilization and announced Somali regular troops were being thrown into the battlefield. Last night's announcement was seen here as tantamount to an unofficial declaration of war by Somali against Ethiopia. There was noticeably little mass enthusiasm, however, over the escalation, though many demonstrators, either vocally or by placard, denounced imperialism, the Soviet Union and Cuba.

Rallies Support Resolutions

LD122014 [Editorial Report LD/EA] Mogadiscio Domestic Service in Somali at 1745 GMT on 12 February carries a "special program" to report that huge rallies in support of the resolutions adopted yesterday by the Somali Revolutionary Socialist Party Central Committee have been held in all regional towns of Somalia. The radio adds that thousands of Somalis have already responded to the mobilization call and started arriving at the training centers established throughout the country by the Defense Ministry.

DPA: SIAD BARRE SAYS SOMALI TROOPS IN OGADEN

ID101807Y Hamburg DPA in German 1722 GMT 10 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Hamburg--According to Somali President Siad Barre, regular Somali troops have involved themselves in the fighting for the Ogaden, which until now had involved only the Western Somali Liberation Front, because "foreigners had advanced inside Somalia." In an interview with the Hamburg magazine DER SPIEGEL, prereleased to DPA today, Barre says that the city of Hargeisa, 30 km inside the northwestern Somalia, was being bombarded "daily." Until now, the Somali side had always denied that guerrillas were supported by regular troops.

Barre said he was "most disappointed" in the attitude adopted by the West, which did not accept its "international responsibility to support world-wide peace," and which pursued its own interests. The conflict in the Horn of Africa "appeared to be no longer just an African, Ethiopian or Somali concern," but was about to be "internationalized."

Somalia was forced to appeal "to all states of good will" for help, Barre said. He believed that Bonn, despite remarks by Chancellor Helmut Schmidt concerning the German NATO obligations which prohibited a supply of arms, could still help Somalia "immensely." Thus, Bonn might be able to assert its influence on behalf of Mogadiscio inside the EEC. "If the Soviets are not put in their place right away," Barre thought, then the USSR's activities could lead to a third world war.

SIAD BARRE: VANCE'S CALL 'TOTALLY UNREALISTIC'

LD122008 [Editorial Report LD/EA] Mogadiscio Domestic Service in Somali at 1850 GMT on 12 February carries a 40-minute recording of Somali President Siad Barre's address on the afternoon of 12 February. Commenting on Secretary Vance's call for the withdrawal of Somalis from Ethiopia, the president says: "The U.S. secretary of state declared in an answer he gave in the American Senate that the Russians should withdraw from Ethipia, Cuba should withdraw also and the Somalis should withdraw. What is most surprising to us is that [words indistinct] of a government should say something totally unrealistic. How can Somalis withdraw from their own territory? Where will they go then? Those who are fighting there are freedom fighters, fighting for their freedom, and they are fighting inside their own territory."

WSLF REPORTS VICTORY IN FIGHTING AROUND HARAR

ID121942Y Mogadiscio Domestic Service in Somali 1850 GMT 12 Feb 78 LD/EA

[Text] A report received from the Western Somali Liberation Front (WSLF) disclosed that the front's forces have successfully countered and defeated the joint offensive launched by the allied forces of Russia, Cuba, Abyssinia and their allies. The report from WSLF adds that the freedom fighters have successfully contained the enemy offensive in the areas around Harar and Diredawa. They have taught the enemy unforgettable lessons, and dealt him severe blows.

The report says that the front's forces are now in full control of Adigala, which the Abyssinians had earlier claimed to have wrested from the hands of the freedom fighters.

The WSLF and Somali-Abo forces in the recent past have attempted to counter the joint offensive launched by the unholy alliance of the Russians, Cubans and others with the aim of halting the freedom struggle.

ENVOY SAYS L.A. GUERRILLAS FIGHTING IN ETHIOPIA

PA111955Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1723 GMT 11 Feb 78 PA

[Text] Paris, 11 Feb (AFP)--In statements published here today by the newspaper LIBERATION, the Somali ambassador to France, Mohamed Samantar, revealed that a Latin American "red brigade" is fighting alongside Ethiopian troops in the Ogaden front in southern Ethiopia. According to the newspaper, the diplomat said that, "the leaders of most of the Latin American guerrilla organizations who have taken refuge in Havana participated in a preliminary meeting on 1 November. The meeting was organized by a representative of the Soviet Embassy in Havana."

According to LIBERATION, which quoted Ambassador Samantar as its source, "the meeting was attended by the representatives of the Revolutionary People's Army (ERP) of Argentina, the National Liberation Movement-Tupamaros (MLN) of Uruguay, the Movement of the Revolutionary Left (MIR) of Chile, as well as representatives of a similar organization of Costa Rica." "The object of the meeting," the Somali ambassador said, "was to undertake a preliminary study for the establishment of a Latin American 'brigade' to fight alongside the Ethiopian troops in the northern and southern fronts of Ethiopia."

SOMALI-ABO FRONT OFFICIAL HOLDS PRESS CONFERENCE

LD112008Y Mogadiscio Domestic Service in Somali 1700 GMT 11 Feb 78 LD/EA

[Text] The information secretary of the Somali-Abo Liberation Front (SALF), Challe Mohamed Rashid Adan, gave a press conference at the front's headquarters in Mogadiscio this afternoon. The press conference was attended by reporters from news agencies and radio and television stations. Challe Mohamed Rashid Adan said that the conference had been called to inform the world about the final stage of SALF's liberation struggle.

Challe Rashid explained that the Abo people were Moslems, whose struggle for independence started when the expansionist Abyssinian colonialists usurped their country. He said that in the beginning, Abyssinian colonialism, with the support of other colonial powers in Africa, had managed to keep SALF's liberation struggle suppressed by various oppressive measures against the people, such as killing, robbing [words indistinct] and changing the people's tradition and culture. He said that the Abo people shared neither culture nor religion with the Abyssinians and that the only thing they had in common was that they were both Africans. He also pointed out that during its period of rule, the Addis Ababa regime did nothing for the people in terms of education, health or other aspects of social welfare.

Speaking about the SALF, he said that a meeting held in Abo country in 1975 resolved to form a liberation movement for the independence of Abo, and a campaign to show the people how they could rid themselves of Abyssinian colonialism was immediately mounted. Challe Rashid said that the SALF had liberated over 95 percent of their country from Abyssinian rule and that the remaining parts were expected to be liberated soon.

Speaking about the tension in the Horn of Africa and the unholy alliance of the USSR, Cuba, the Abyssinians and the other stooges, he said that the Abyssinians had asked for help from the Soviet Union and its stooges when they had already been completely defeated in their bid to safeguard the Addis Ababa regime and were unable to face the liberation fronts any longer. This unholy alliance, however, he said, could not stifle the liberation struggle, which was based on justice and good faith. SALF regarded the USSR as an agent of neocolonialism at the time when the old colonialism was evidently disappearing from the face of the earth. For this reason we shall continue our struggle until we chase the last Abyssinian soldier from our country, Challe Rashid said.

The secretary general called on the Abyssinian, Soviet and Cuban forces, as well as the farmers and militia, to surrender to the SALF. SALF promised that if they did so they would be in safe hands.

No peace will come to the Horn of Africa until the Addis Ababa regime accepts self-determination for the peoples struggling for their freedom, including those of the Abo, western Somalia and Eritrea, and until foreign governments, such as the Soviet Union and its stooges, keep their hands off the Horn of Africa, since relaxation of tension in the Horn of Africa is the responsibility of the African Continent alone, said Challe Rashid.

Finally, Challe Rashid appealed to the OAU, the United Nations, the Arab League and other international organizations to be on the side of the peoples fighting for their rights, adding that victory belonged to the freedom fighters. The only fate the colonialist deserved was death.

TOP USSR ADVISER TO SOMALIA REPORTEDLY IN ETHIOPIA

OW111337Y Hong Kong AFP in English 1325 GMT 11 Feb 78 OW

[Text] Peking, Feb 11 (AFT)--The former Soviet top military adviser to Somalia, General Gregoriy Gregorovich Barisov, is commanding "foreign" forces fighting alongside Ethiopians and his orders in Russian have twice been picked up by Somali-backed forces, Mogadiscio's ambassador to Peking, Mohamed Ismail Kahin, said here today.

The ambassador said the general had given instructions to his forces, basically Soviet and Cuban, successively in Harowo, northwest of Diredawa, and near to Harar, the Ambassador said. The general used the phrase "this is Barisov speaking" to identify himself to both air and land forces, the ambassador said, adding that Mogadiscio had confirmed his identity, as he had served there for several years.

Mr Kahin said China's policy was of nonintervention in Third World countries' conflicts, but did not formally deny Chinese military aid was going to Somalia. "China and Somalia speak a common language and share a common stand against hegemonism whether white or black," he said.

He said Soviet pilots were in command of MIG-17, 21 and 23 aircraft on bombing missions, and Soviet soldiers were driving armoured vehicles on the two main fronts at Harar and Diredawa. Cubans were in command of the artillery, engineering and provided airport troops, he added.

Mr Kahin said China was very much concerned by Soviet intervention in the Horn of Africa.

MOGADISCIO COMMENTS ON ISRAELI AID TO ETHIOPIA

LD111518Y Mogadiscio Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 11 Feb 78 LD/EA

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] The Israeli foreign minister gives a detailed explanation on the strong cooperation between his country and Abyssinia. The Somali nation and Arabic countries which are well-versed on the policy of the Addis Ababa regime are not surprised with the declaration voiced by the Israeli foreign minister in which he bluntly admitted the deep-rooted friendship between the Abyssinians and the Israelis.

The SDR [Somali Democratic Republic] and liberation movements, which include western Somalia, Abo and Eritrea, have for a long time and all along been pointing an accusing finger on the Tel Aviv and Addis Ababa relations. However, this justified and timely accusation met with adamant and qualified denials from the Abyssinian regime.

Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan last week, speaking to Israeli ambassadors in Zurich, Switzerland, disclosed that Israeli-Abyssinian relations comes of age and on the basis of cooperation and solidarity. The Israeli foreign minister uncovered a secret treaty between the two countries. This disclosure and declaration made by Moshe Dayan produced an angry reaction on the part of the leaders of the Addis Ababa regime, who rather preferred to conceal in absolute secrecy the treaty between the two countries in view of the Abyssinian intention to implement an effective double role on the Arab and Israeli diplomatic front.

Following the Israeli offensive attack in 1973 on Egypt, the bulk of independent African states severed their diplomatic relations with Israel, which was unanimously recognized as the enemy of Africa and the Arab world, followed by a joint resolution issued by the Arab League and the OAU to isolate Abyssinia not to have any relations with Israel.

The Haile Selassie empire declared in 1973 that it had severed diplomatic relations with Israel. However, what is amazing beyond comprehension is the revival of the relations on military, trade, culture and economic matters with Israel by the [word indistinct] so-called socialist regime in Addis Ababa.

Israeli experts give tuition to Abyssinian soldiers on torture methods applied on the citizens of Abyssinia and also all livestock in Abyssinia is exported to Israel.

The question on the minds of all peoples today is what are the interests and objectives hitherto unheard of that has brought together Russia, Israel and Abyssinia. The answer is a simple one: Following the change of policy by Russia and Cuba which embodied the support of liberation movements with the very liberation movements [as heard] they produced a new type of policy which is more or less identical with the one pursued by Israel. The Israeli interest in Abyssinia and the Russian interest in that country became synonymous. This has resulted in the solidarity and cooperation between Israeli and Russian experts and troops in combating the liberation movements and the progressive Abyssinian masses.

When asked what compelled Israel to have relations with and extend support to a socialist country like Abyssinia, Moshe Dayan declared that Abyssinia's claim to socialism is not genuine. This is the reality and the core of the brotherly relations between Israel and Abyssinia. The Tel Aviv and Addis regimes have identical characteristics and are among the list of countries compiled by Amnesty International which have violated basic human rights to an alarming and unprecedented proportion.

Israel occupies and colonizes by force Arab lands, and similarly Abyssinia colonizes Arab peoples. This is another reason for Abyssinia to call on and rely upon Israel for assistance to subjugate the western Somalis, Abo and Eritreans.

The plotting and unholy alliances of Israel, Abyssinia plus Russia and Cuba in the Horn of Africa is now beyond doubt to all peoples in the world. If they were hitherto uninformed, today any country supporting the Abyssinian regime is conscious of being on the bandwagon of Israel, as an ally of Israel.

Fronts Condemn Israel

LD111530Y Mogadiscio Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 11 Feb 78 LD/EA

[Text] The WSLF [Western Somalia Liberation Front] today condemned the Israeli involvement in the war between the liberation movements of western Somalia, Abo, Afar and Eritrea on one side and the Russians, Cubans and black colonizers of Addis Ababa on the other side.

In a report published today by the WSLF and Somali-Abo Liberation Front daily paper, DANAB, the liberation fronts condemned in a most emphatic way the Moscow-Tel Aviv-Havana-Addis axis established for the assassination of justice, peace and most noble ideals of man. The paper said the liberation fronts will never be cowed by this most unholy tripartite [as heard] conspiracy against their national aspirations and the right [words indistinct] to self-determination. DANAB said Moshe Dayan had only confirmed to the world at large the Russian double standards which the liberation movements have exposed to the world a long time ago.

The WSLF and Somali-Abo paper wrote that lately the Russians, overestimating their threatening impetus as superpower, claimed of a mass offensive purport [as heard] supposed to exterminate the freedom fighters. There is no doubt that the WSLF and Somali-Abo Liberation Front have in several fields defeated the Abyssinian army to the extent that no more could face them but Russians, Cubans and other Warsaw Pact military forces. These foreign forces are nothing more but paper tigers, said the report of DANAB. We have smashed them alongside with their sophisticated armaments and even displayed their captives as a proof to their combatant role in the battlefield to the world press, the mouthpiece of the liberation fronts said today.

TANJUG: SIAD BARRE AIDE MAY HAVE FLED TO KENYA

LD131225Y Belgrade TANJUG in English 1122 GMT 13 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Nairobi, Feb 13 (TANJUG)--Kenya's position on the conflict in Ogaden is given virtually in full in an editorial of the weekly SUNDAY TIMES, which calls Somalia to "do the only possible thing and withdraw from Ogaden." This would open possibilities of negotiation, the outcome of which would depend on "the political will and statesmanship of those involved in the conflict," the weekly writes.

In Kenya's capital the conflict in "the Horn of Africa" is followed very closely and with open concern, above all because of the possibilities of escalation and a dangerous internationalization of the conflict.

The Kenya press is apprehensive also about the increasing interference by "non-African countries" in the conflict. So the news on the recent decision of Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates to "open an unlimited account for Somalia to pay for the purchase of Soviet arms in Egypt" has been given notable prominence in the Kenya press.

An unconfirmed report saying that one of Somali President Barre's closest aids, Colonel Hussein Ali Dualeh, has fled to Kenya has also drawn great attention in Nairobi. Dualeh is, however, till [now] the Somali ambassador to Kenya, but he went to Somalia already last September "for family reasons." His departure from Mogadiscio was brought at that time into connection with the activity of "the liberation forces" in Ogaden, which, as is asserted in diplomatic quarters in Nairobi, were led also by this colonel.

SIAD EXPLAINS SITUATION TO NEW FRG AMBASSADOR

LD102008Y Mogadiscio Domestic Service in Somali 1700 GMT 10 Feb 78 LD/EA

[Excerpt] Challe Mohamed Siad Barre, secretary general of the Somali Revolutionary Socialist Party and president of the Somali Democratic Republic [SDR], today received the credentials of the new FRG ambassador to Somalia, His Excellency [name indistinct].

Speaking on the occasion, the president said that the SDR regarded the ambassador's posting to Somalia as highly significant, since it came at a time when relations between the two countries were very good and were being strengthened even further. The president said that the SDR was ready to strengthen economic relations between the two countries and that the Somali people expected the FRG to help them in their fight against illiteracy, disease and hunger.

We are very (?grateful) for the economic aid recently extended to the Somali people by the FRG, and we recall with pleasure my recent meeting with the FGR chancellor, His Excellency Helmut Schmidt, all of which will lead to the strengthening of our bilateral relations, Challe Siad said.

Challe Mohamed Siad Barre went on to say that cooperation between the two countries would yield fruit on both the national and international levels. This cooperation reflected the struggle of the developing countries to improve their economies and standards of living, he said. The president added that relations between the two countries were based on the Lome agreement, the discussions in Europe, the Arab talks and the north-south dialog.

There is no doubt, said the president, that the EEC in general, and the FRG in particular, can play a major role in helping developing countries boost their economies and promote their prosperity.

Speaking about the tension in the Horn of Africa, Challe Siad said that any relaxation of that tension was obviated by the interference of the allied forces of the Soviet Union, Cuba, Abyssinia and other stooges. He said it was imperative that the issue be solved in an African and democratic way.

Challe Mohamed Siad Barre emphasized that on several occasions the SDR had warned foreign governments of the dangers in the Horn of Africa, which have been aggravated by foreign interference and the unjust invasion launched by the allied forces, led by the Soviet Government, which is aimed at (?dominating) the SDR. The president said that the conflict in the Horn of Africa was the historical result of colonialism. Therefore, the help that the SDR was extending to the Somali liberation movements was in line with the principles of the OAU and our declared policy of helping peoples struggling for their freedom.

SOUTH AFRICA

TROOPS ENTER ANGOLA ON 'HOT PURSUIT' OPERATION

TA101803Y Paris AFP in English 1802 GMT 10 Feb 78 TA

[Text] Windhoek, Feb 10 (AFP)--South African troops killed 18 nationalist guerrillas in a "hot pursuit" raid in southern Angola yesterday, South African forces commander in Namibia, General Jan Geldenhuys, announced today.

The raid came on the eve of crucial talks on Namibia's future between the South African Government and the five Western members of the UN Security Council. It also followed an Angolan complaint to the UN about South African military operations north of Angola's border with Namibia. Gen Geldenhuys said the operation was in reply to the killing of one white and two black South African soldiers by a SWAPO unit.

Today's raid was the largest--in terms of guerrillas killed--since a 3-day cross-border battle last October in which more than 60 died. So far this year, 40 guerrillas have been killed and 4 South African soldiers have died. Gen Geldenhuys said that between last August and Jan 1 this year there were 49 violations of Namibia's border with Angola.

A government spokesman in Pretoria yesterday said that South Africa had no hostile intentions towards Angola and that its sole operations north of the frontier were reprisal strikes on guerrilla bases. The presence of South African troops in Namibia is seen as the chief obstacle to a negotiated settlement of the independence issue in which the South-West African People's Organization would be included.

BOTHA TO REPORT TO VORSTER ON S-W AFRICA TALKS

LD120622Y Johannesburg International Service in English 0300 GMT 12 Feb 78 LD

[Summary] The South African foreign minister, Mr Roelof Botha, has told newsmen in New York that he will be returning to South Africa today, earlier than originally expected. He said he has conveyed this decision to the foreign ministers of the Big Five Western countries, with whom he had two rounds of talks on South-West Africa. Mr Botha said that in the discussions with the five foreign ministers, which were conducted in a serious atmosphere, he obtained clarity about the Western proposals for a settlement in South-West Africa. He said it is now necessary to return home for consultations with the South African prime minister, Mr Vorster. Mr Botha said he would not be seeing the foreign ministers of the five countries again before he left the United States. Mr Botha would not comment on the substance of his latest round of talks with the five. A spokesman for the Western foreign ministers told reporters that no significance should be attached to the latest development.

Further Details

LD131124Y Pretoria DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION in English 1000 GMT 13 Feb 78 LD

[Text] New York--The foreign minister, Mr Pik Botha, has broken off the New York talks on South-West Africa because U.S. demands have become "so serious and so dangerous" that personal discussions with the prime minister, Mr Vorster, have become "absolutely essential." Mr Botha was on his way home last night after a dramatic series of events. Mr Botha denied reports that he was leaving the talks in anger.

Dangers Noted

LD1311[illegible]Y Pretoria DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION in English 1002 GMT 13 Feb 78 LD

[Text] New York--The South African foreign minister, Mr Pik Botha, said yesterday that aspects of Western proposals for the future of South-West Africa could lead to government of the territory by "a Marxist terrorist organization." He added: "The people of South-West Africa are not prepared to pay the price of international recognition by voluntarily destroying themselves."

Appearing on the CBS television network programme "Face the Nation," Mr Botha said of the proposals: "At present there are aspects that would, in my opinion and in the opinion of various political parties of South-West Africa, be so totally unacceptable and so dangerous that, if they are accepted, then there is a severe, real danger of those people in the territory being overrun and being governed by a Marxist, terrorist organization, without any hope ever of one man, one vote, or freedom of expression, or security of the person." Mr Botha was alluding to SWAPO, headed by Mr Sam Nujoma, which has been holding separate talks with the five Western foreign ministers.

He said progress had been made in some areas of his talks with the five Western powers but not in others. "But it doesn't mean no progress can be made," he added at another point [words indistinct] very serious."

He listed as a "serious and major problem" the extent of South African troop withdrawals prior to elections leading to independence before the end of the year.

Another issue was the relationship between the South-Africa appointed administrator for the territory, Mr Justice Steyn, and a representative who, under the Western proposals, would be appointed to represent the UN during the interim period before independence.

Expressing deep disquiet over U.S. policy towards South Africa in general, he said: "I might as well say it bluntly. It is not the American people. But I might as well be very frank with you... There tends to be an over-simplification on the part of the American Government, comparing our circumstances with yours, not taking into account the rest of Africa."

Declaring that such institutions as an independent judiciary, freedom of the press and democratic government existed nowhere else in Africa, he added: "Selective punishment is being meted out against my people."

On a rising note of anger he continued: "Everything is blown up in my country, taken out of context, distorted beyond recognition and dished up to the American people. This is not right. I insist on the truth. I insist on the opportunity to give the American people the opportunity to learn the facts..."

Rejecting charges that freedom of the press was now in danger in South Africa, he retorted: "It is not in danger at present. It is the only free press on the continent of Africa."

Referring to criticism of apartheid, he said: "We must be encouraged to move away from discrimination. We must be given credit for where we have moved away from discrimination."

The U.S. should be "a little bit more humble in condemning us," he asserted. Unemployment among black youths in America was three to four times higher than among whites, and whites earned 50 percent more than blacks.

Obstacles Listed

LD131150Y Pretoria DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION in English 1008 GMT 13 Feb 78 LD

[Text] New York--Mr Botha last night listed the question of Walvis Bay, troops in South-West Africa and detainees as the most serious stumbling blocks to agreement between South Africa, the Western powers and SWAPO. Interviewed in New York, Mr Botha said: "It is no use beating around the bush. Those are the three most serious problems preventing an agreement which will receive international recognition." Mr Botha said it was the South African Government's aim for the people of the territory to decide their own future. This was not guaranteed in the proposals put forward by the five Western powers.

Proposals Outlined

LD131202Y Pretoria DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION in English 1010 GMT 13 Feb 78 LD

[Text] New York--The Western proposals for South-West Africa, which was being negotiated between the foreign ministers of Britain, France, United States, West Germany and Canada and a delegation from SWAPO, provide for a carefully controlled transition period of seven to eight months and independence for the territory by December 31 this year.

The 11-page document calls for "free elections for the whole of Namibia as one political entity under appropriate UN supervision and control" as the key to a settlement. The "central task" of the proposed special representative of the UN secretary-general would be "to ensure that fairness and impartiality of the electoral process." The representative would administer the territory for the transitional period jointly with the South Africa-appointed administrator-general. "This working arrangement shall in no way constitute recognition of the South African presence in and administration of Namibia," the document says.

If the plan is accepted, the development would be:

--An urgent meeting of the UN Security Council to adopt a resolution asking the secretary-general to appoint the special representative, who would submit a plan for UN involvement.

--A week later, the council would meet again to adopt a further resolution endorsing the special representative's plan. The transitional period would then officially begin.

--South Africa and SWAPO forces would be restricted to bases. The special representative and his UN observer team would go to the territory and start monitoring the ceasefire.

--After six weeks, South African forces would be reduced to 12,000. Dismantling the command structure and demobilization of citizen forces and local forces would begin.

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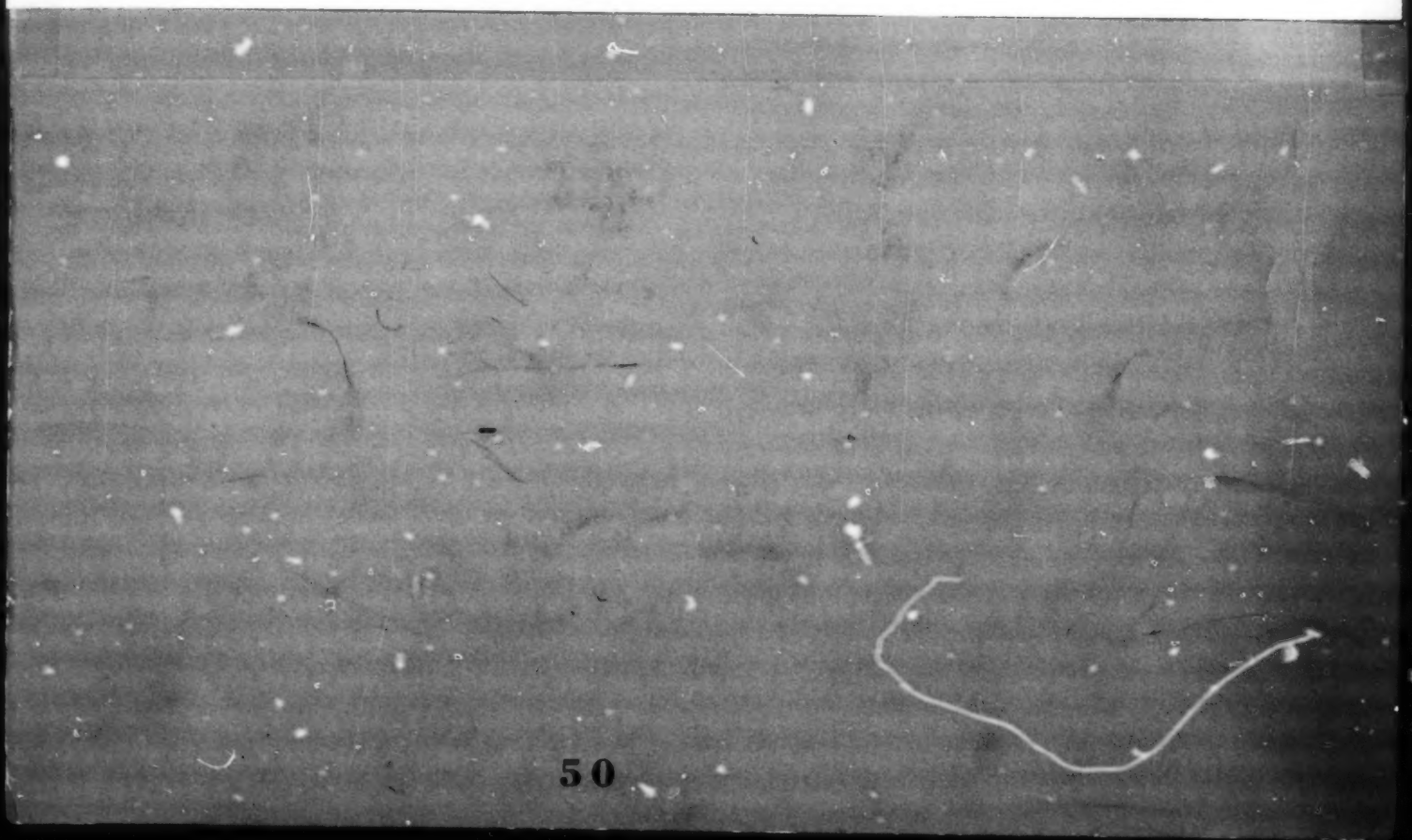
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